

HARDIN COUNTY



COURTHOUSE

KOUNTZE, TEXAS

Wayne McDaniel
COUNTY JUDGE

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August 27, 2019

The Honorable Brian Babin
United States Congress, 36TH District
2236 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Babin,

I am writing to you today in support of the Threat Assessment, Prevention and Safety (TAPS) Act of 2019 (H.R. 838), which will establish a behavioral threat assessment and management process to diminish threats of mass violence throughout our country.

Mass shootings are unfortunately on the increase as of late. The process implemented by passage of the TAPS Act will aid authorities in identifying and managing this type of targeted violence against our communities well before the first shot is fired. Simply, I agree with the intent behind the TAPS Act and recognize that a behavioral threat assessment model effected on a community-based level is one of the best tools we have to protect our communities from mass casualty violence and does so without violating our constitutional rights to keep and bear arms nor does it infringe on our privacy.

You informed me during our visit last week that the TAPS Act will create a process similar to that which was implemented by the United States Secret Service to mitigate threats against the President of the United States. If this program works to protect the President, then it should also be employed to protect the American people.

Thank you for your service to the Great State of Texas, and to our Nation.

Sincerely,

Wayne McDaniel
County Judge